

**In the Abstract**

Please amend the Abstract as presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007903 as follows:

**Abstract of the Disclosure ABSTRACT**

~~The invention relates to an~~ An ironing board ~~comprising~~ includes a heat-resistant ironing board cover which can be placed thereon and ~~is provided with~~ includes elastic padding. The inventive ironing board (1, 11) ~~has~~ includes a peripheral edge (4, 14) which projects past the surface (9) of the ironing board and holds the padding (3) in place.